



Geliebter und berühmter Arzt

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A Bíblia apresenta São Lucas como o médico de coração generoso, bem instruído e autor de um dos evangelhos e do Livro de Atos. Lendas antigas o descrevem como uma pessoa fora do comum, a quem são atribuídos milagres e prodígios antes mesmo de sua conversão ao cristianismo.

Em **Médico de homens e de almas**, Taylor Caldwell combina estas duas imagens de um dos mais importantes da igreja cristã primitiva, caracterizado pela constante preocupação com o sofrimento de enfermos, oprimidos e pobres. A autora pesquisou a vida e as obras de Lucas durante anos, e as descreve de forma romaneada num livro rico em detalhes históricos e de narrativa emocionante.

Roman-Biografie des Evangelisten Lukas, des Arztes griechisch-römischer Abstammung. Der Roman geht über die historischen bzw. kirchlich anerkannten Fakten und die Legenden hinaus. Die Autorin läßt das abenteuerliche Leben des Arztes Lucanus (= lateinisch für Lukas) vor einem stimmungsvollen Panorama des kaiserlichen Rom und des antiken Palästina vor den Augen des Lesers erstehen.

Geliebter und berühmter Arzt Details

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From Reader Review Geliebter und berühmter Arzt for online ebook

Kathi says

Currently re-reading this wonderful book on the life of St. Luke. She researched this for decades and you can tell by all of the minutiae that is included. St. Luke never met Christ, but he has one of the most beautiful books in the New Testament.

Luis Zamarro Fraile says

He leído pocos libros capaces no solo de entretener o de ilustrar sino también de alimentar el espíritu. Médico de Cuerpos y Almas de Taylor Caldwell es uno de ellos. Tal vez el primero con la fuerza y el impacto suficiente para emocionar hasta las lágrimas en cada capítulo. Para mi, eso es suficiente a efecto de considerarlo no únicamente como una gran lectura sino también como una obra maestra, un nuevo y personal gran favorito. Una historia de consuelo que me acompañará a lo largo del resto de mis días y que sin duda reservaré para las horas más difíciles.

Médico de Cuerpos y Almas fue escrito hace más de medio siglo y su narrativa ha sido muchas veces criticada como obsoleta o fuera de los estándares modernos. Entiendo el por qué de esas opiniones aunque no las comparto. Una historia como la de San Lucas merece el tiempo, cuidado y la dulzura que Taylor Caldwell le dio a cada capítulo en honor a los cerca de cuarenta años que tardó en escribirlo. Tomando en cuenta todo eso nunca encontré, dentro de su amplia extensión, algún capítulo, párrafo o línea tediosa, mucho menos cursi o sobrecargada.

Por el contrario, Taylor Caldwell fue capaz de trasladarme al imperio romano gobernado por Tiberio y a la Jerusalem de Herodes y de Poncio Pilatos. Gracias a su prosa elocuente y descriptiva fui capaz de ver, a través de la mirada atenta de Lucano, la misericordia y bondad de un espíritu inquebrantable y decidido al mismo tiempo que atormentado. También fui capaz de sentir, aunque fuera por unos instantes, la belleza del mundo y la paz que el mensaje de Cristo trató de mandar a todas las naciones no obstante la arrogancia, egoísmo y brutalidad de los hombres que se encargarían de cumplir con la misión.

Médico de Cuerpos y Almas no es una lectura sencilla, es un libro que debe ser tomado en el momento preciso y cuando el hambre de esperanza embarga el espíritu del lector. Para mi llegó en el momento preciso y con toda seguridad puedo afirmar que su mensaje se mantiene vigente.

Lucano, como la mayoría de los hombres libres, inició su viaje a la conversión ostentándose con rivalidad y altanería hacia Dios para luego terminar como uno de sus más fieles seguidores. Su transformación gradual al Cristianismo le convirtió en uno de los tres evangelistas de la Roma imperial con poder suficiente para sanar el cuerpo y las almas de los oprimidos...puedo asegurar que el viaje a través de sus páginas vale la pena, aun para los más escépticos...

Aunque estas líneas reflejen totalmente lo opuesto, deben saber que no soy alguien religioso, pero inesperadamente, este libro me lleno de paz, esperanza, al mismo tiempo que de un sentimiento cargado de gran nostalgia ante el profundo deseo de mantener la fe en un mundo como el actual en el que los líderes más poderosos desdeñan a los débiles con la mayor facilidad e impunidad posibles. Al iniciar esta lectura, incluso estuve seguro de que no lograría terminarlo. Para mi sorpresa quedé enganchado con la fuerza de la historia a partir del prólogo.

Y como diría el noble Lucano, !Que la paz esté con todos ustedes!

LZM

Cherry says

This was a great way to understand the time Christ lived in (the Bible being the best of course, Then Jesus the Christ by James Talmage) through characters that crossed his path, Christ is not the main character in this novel but is the main point of this novel. It is a wonderful journey I did feel a gained a bit of insight into that time, a greater appreciation of what was involved with those early saints and humble followers of Christ and what they went through with so many different cultures coming together to have a belief in Christ.

Mike (the Paladin) says

Unabridged audio.

The novelized life of Luke the writer of the third Gospel of the New Testament. While it's readable and a lasting story I'd remind all that it's a novel. So, enjoy (I suppose) but get your theology from the book the main character transcribed a couple of thousand years ago.

Leila says

This book is rated as Taylor Caldwell's greatest novel. She covers the basic facts of the life of St Luke...born a Greek - Lucanus... and trained in medicine to become a famous physician who travelled all over healing the sick with the background of the Roman Empire. Later in the book he becomes deeply interested in Christianity and although he had never met Jesus, he moves around those who knew him including his Mother and Pontius Pilate to find out all he can, eventually embracing Christianity and writing his Gospel according to St Luke. The author visited The Holy Land to meticulously research the historical facts. The result is a detailed, imaginative and absorbing portrait of Luke's background, his love story, his suffering, his travels and interesting details about what in those days was known as 'The White Sickness' I found this book to be a most powerful read many years ago and have had deep satisfaction in reading it once more so many years later....exciting, extremely interesting, immensely moving and for me personally unforgettable. You do not have to be a Christian to enjoy this brilliant book in it's own right. I recommend it highly

Vicho says

En el prefacio la autora cuenta que ha escrito la novela con amor, y se siente ese amor al leer el libro. Hoy en día son pocas las novelas que he podido encontrar que traten a los personajes bíblicos con ese amor y respeto que se merecen.

Definitivamente no tomo la novela como algo real, puesto que es muy poco de lo que se conoce acerca de la vida de San Lucas, pero como historia es una aventura espiritual que llena muchísimo el corazón. La búsqueda de la Verdad, en un mundo lleno de dioses falsos. Creo que es el tipo de historia que necesitamos hoy más que nunca en un mundo alejado de Dios.

Holly Weiss says

From Taylor Caldwell's Author Note: it is obvious that much love and research went into this tale of the life of Luke, author of the 3rd Gospel and noted physician of his time.

Patrick says

The plotting in this novel is leisurely by postmodern standards, and Taylor Caldwell's prose sometimes veers toward purple, with each Antiochan, Alexandrian, and Roman sunset seemingly more beautiful than the one before it, and scented gardens hosting conversations between principal characters.

Despite those flaws, "Dear and Glorious Physician" is -- like "Quo Vadis" -- a novel for the ages, full of lush description, virtuous friendship, and dark nights of the soul. Its confident portrayal of first-century life and politics in the Roman Empire notes sights, sounds, and smells throughout. Caldwell's affection for Saint Luke is palpable, but the hagiography here rises above the merely sentimental to become memorable. Like any good doctor, even in "primitive" times, Luke is no mere pill-pusher. I also like that while Caldwell's language is painterly, her point of view is compassionate.

Caldwell shows a deft understanding of power politics. A letter from Tiberius (Caesar) to Lucanus is unexpectedly poignant, and a dinner hosted by Pontius Pilate lingers in memory as a textbook example of high-level imperial politicking at its most subtle and dangerous.

Laura says

Taylor Caldwell is an author I have been aware of for a good long while but have never read. Thanks to a recommendation by BYU football coach, Bronco Mendenhall by way of his mother, I chose to break that particular drought in my literary experience by reading this story about Luke of New Testament fame. My future reading of the twenty-four chapters of St. Luke will never be the same again.

Three quarters of this book deals with Luke aka Lucanus's conversion. The remaining quarter of the novel focuses on Luke's writing of his contribution to the New Testament through interviews with factual (think James, John and Mary, His mother) as well as fictional first hand witnesses to the life and death of Jesus Christ. My wish regarding this story would be that the author would have devoted a bit more time to Luke's interaction with Christ's contemporaries (like Peter).

This creation gives you a great deal of detailed information about the Roman empire and it's influence on the world at that time. Lucanus grows up in the home of his stepfather, the Roman governor of Antioch. He studies medicine in Alexandria and becomes one of the most noted physicians of the ancient world. My natural affinity for all things historic was richly satisfied by the adept writing of this author.

As you follow Lucanus through his life you feel you come to know who this man was and he becomes an endearing acquaintance as a result. A very rich and satisfying read.

Ricardo says

This is a Historical novel about the life of St. Luke, writer of one of the four gospels in the Bible and also the Acts of the Apostles. Based on Luke's background as a Physician, the author starts the narrative in Luke's early days and leads us to the time just after Jesus death. Even though his origins are not clear, he is supposed to have been born a slave and raised in his stepfather's house. Through all of his life, he is supposed to fight an internal battle against social injustice and God's will. In the end, he gets to know his mission through direct contact with many of the people who met Jesus in person.

Jane says

A somewhat old-fashioned although beautifully written book. This novel tells the story of St. Luke, called herein Lucanus, from childhood, adoption by a kindly Roman patrician as the latter's son, medical studies in Alexandria, to his wanderings to serve the poor. He comes to a belief in Christ as Messiah after railing against God for years because of the deaths of loved ones and the cruelty of men against others. He has the marvelous idea to write down what he hears about Christ. The prose is really purple [I'm surprised my hands aren't stained :)] and it does get a tad sentimental at times. It's a moving novel nonetheless and well worth reading. This might make a good choice for Lent or Advent, now that the latter is nearly upon us.

The pace is slow, like other novels of yesteryear, but oh, Ms. Caldwell could really write. She made St. Luke human for me, and not a dusty historical figure. If you look at it with the eyes of today scrutinizing anything historical it comes up short, but everything else makes up for any inaccuracies. Luke's interviews of Biblical figures in the Christ story are fascinating: Pilate, John and James, and the Virgin Mary. The testimony of his brother, Priscus, a Roman soldier at the crucifixion, is especially poignant and had me teary-eyed.

Bill Jackman says

Have read several times, but it has been several decades since the last time. I enjoyed it before, so expect I will still like it.

I still liked it, but had several disappointments. I know more of the history of the time now. There were a lot of historical inaccuracies. Women only had meaning in relationship to the men around them. Men aren't featured much better. A good woman will only love one man her entire life. A good man may love a second woman if the first one dies.

Taylor Caldwell started the book in her teens. but took many years to finish it. At my current age, I wish she would have had her main characters mature as she matured.

Ruth says

I love reading books that close friends have recommended to me. I know my friend better now after reading his favorite book.

I really enjoyed this book -- the best part is the last chapter in part 1. I feel like this book went on a little too

long, once Lucanus began meeting with the biblical figures to write his Gospel, I felt this part was a bit repetitive.

But the atmosphere of ancient Rome was fantastic, and Lucanus's journey to faith was well worth the read.

Mike says

***Dear and Glorious Physician* - Now correctly reviewed under its own title!**

I read this book (and several others by the author) a long, long time ago. Putting aside the "disciple" aspect of Luke (which wasn't a factor), I read it because

- a) he was a physician and
- b) it's set in the early Roman Empire.

Since I've always been into science and did lots of Western (i.e. Greco-Roman) Ancient History and took Latin for six years as a teenager, this book hit on all three.

From what I remember, I liked the book for its own sake. Her novels tend to be longish and rich with detail and plot. Of course this is a fictionalized account of Luke's life and I am pretty sure that Caldwell takes some expansive liberties with his life story.

(Minor spoiler alert!)

(view spoiler)

I also recall having attempted to read at least one of her other books (I think it was "*Great Lion of God*") and putting it down 40-50 pages into it for 6 months because I thought it was unreadable. I did eventually read it through, but "*Dear and Glorious Physician*" was clearly a better book and I recall more details of it even mumblety-mumble years ago. It was a pretty decent book: well-written and well plotted.

Now (as I write this review) that I look over her bibliography, I see a few titles that I never read and would consider picking up: "*The Arm and the Darkness*", "*A Pillar of Iron*", "*Glory and the Lightning*", and "*Dialogues with the Devil*". There are probably others that I would like, too.

Given her fairly high level of writing, I hope you decide to pick up this or another of her many books. Even though her last book was written in 1980, her themes are universal and ageless (more or less.) Give one or two a try. I think you will be pleasantly surprised.

Four (4.0) Stars for topic, content, and a happy memory.

Carol says

I probably would have liked it better if I had read it when it was first published. I was in high school at the time. With more than 50 years of education and experience since then, I guess my standards have changed. Here are some of the things that disappointed me about the book.

First, overwritten. My thesaurus also mentions florid, ornate and embellished. Some parts just put me to sleep. And my dreams when I dozed off were more interesting than the corresponding part of the book.

Second, anachronisms. The reference to a constitution of the Roman republic. I asked my husband, our family expert on history and government, and he asserts that a written constitution was an invention of the 18th century - specifically the birth of the US. Or the attempt to make bloodletting a logical treatment for high blood pressure. It was more that a thousand years after the setting of the story before there was any understanding of the scientific concept of pressure, and of any way to measure it. And several hundred years after that before measurements were applied specifically to blood pressure, and even longer before the medical profession began to understand the impact of blood pressure on health.

A related irritation - some years after the book was published, I took an introductory college class in cultural anthropology, which concentrated on how the physical and social environment affect the way people think. In this book, I saw no indication that the author understood this. The emotions and motivations of the people in the book struck me as being very 20th century, and the various historic facts were treated kind of like scenery, just like the descriptions of the landscape and buildings.

But most of all, I was bothered by theological differences. A few examples: The Catholics called the concept "Immaculate Conception" and there may be some Protestant denominations with similar beliefs. But I reject the idea of original sin, so it makes no sense to me to suppose that Jesus's mother Mary was miraculously born free from sin. I do believe in the spiritual gift of healing, but it seemed wrong to me to attribute such power to Luke before he had fulfilled the prerequisites thereof.

I really disliked the way she portrayed James and John. I guess that's a personal objection, but she also was wrong to have Mary living alone at the end. The scriptures are very clear that John, obeying the wish of Jesus on the cross, brought Mary into his own household for the rest of her life.

The author made points with me when she pointed out that Pontius Pilate was not the evil being some have made him out to be. He did his best to avoid giving in to the mob, but finally had to carry out his duty to keep the peace with the Jewish people. The fact was that a small group of protesters was going to carry out violence unless he gave in to them. And he must have regretted doing so. I would have given another half a star for that insight alone, if only she hadn't ruined it, on virtually the same page. She claimed that the Greek word "ichthos" (fish) was an anagram. I had always understood it to be an acronym - the initials of a phrase which translates in English as "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior."

My apologies to all those who found the story inspiring. The plot was good, I think, but I was too troubled by those irritating details to fully appreciate it.

The book is due back at the library soon, and I have no impulse to reread it, nor to read anything else by this author.

Willa Grant says

I read this first in the summer of 1966- my Mom had gotten it out of the library & my best friends were on vacation so I started reading it out of boredom. This is NOT a kids book BTW! The story stuck in my sub-conscience & when I joined The International Order of St Luke I remembered it & decided to re-read it. This is a "historical novel" about St Luke or Lucanus as he was called in life. St Luke (like St Paul) never saw Jesus. He was a Greek physician who as a convert decided to write the history of the Lord he worshiped. The author read extensively about St Luke before she wrote this book & there is a nifty bibliography in the back. The story suffers from the lack of modern biblical scholarship but is a wonderful read none the less. The part where a centurion relates what it was like for him at the crucifixion was very moving. An oldy but a goody!

Sarah says

This was one of my late grandmother's books, and I am eternally grateful to my parents for not throwing it out or selling it when we moved Grandpa out of that house. What a find!

Dear and Glorious Physician chronicles the life of St. Luke the Physician, starting when he is a ten-year-old child, a Greek slave in the Roman province of Syria. Despite his ostensibly lowly rank, Lucanus (as he is then called) grows up in a happy, stable environment with both of his biological parents. His master is a kind if austere man who allows the lad to be friends with his own sickly daughter, Rubria. That winter a great, bright star appears in the heavens overhead, which fascinates Lucanus, who was always somewhat otherworldly even as a child but becomes steadily more ethereal from that point forward.

Lucanus is in for a rough adolescence. He falls in puppy love with Rubria, but she succumbs to her sickness, grieving him deeply. He decides to train as a physician, and becomes locally renowned as a healer, but is unable to save Rubria's mother from dying in childbirth (although he did save the infant, which was no small feat). His father, whom he never liked much, drowns not long after. Lucanus begins to feel that life is arbitrary and God is cruel. This hatred for the way things are is all that drives him.

He goes to Alexandria to further his medical training. Meanwhile his master, Diodorus, remarries—to Lucanus' mother, Iris.

While in Egypt Lucanus meets another girl, a young Jewish aristocrat named Sara (whose name should be spelled with an H, by the way). The attraction between them—emotional, physical, and spiritual—is instant and powerful, but Lucanus is too angry with the world to allow himself to truly love Sara, or accept her belief in a loving God who watches over all. His mother and step-family have moved to Rome, and he joins them there.

Rome is both the crown jewel and the cesspit of the Western world at the moment. Nowhere else would you find more art, more education, more commerce—and nowhere else would you find such apathy, such madness, such depravity and such decay.

Lucanus is an established doctor by now, and the step-son of a loyal Roman soldier. With a solid reputation for himself and a good family background, he is sought as the personal physician to Emperor Tiberius. The young man is also a great athlete and very handsome—with the fair hair, blue eyes, and height so coveted by the Greco-Romans—and the wicked empress, Julia, wants to make him her next conquest. She gets him drunk at a party and almost has her way with him, but he evades her and flees the imperial city. Her favorites, having displeased her, tend to wind up dead.

Back in the Near East, Lucanus makes a travelling companion, a man from deep in Africa named Ramus who has come to seek the Messiah, and has sworn an oath of silence until he finds Him. For years these two friends wander the Mediterranean coast, Lucanus healing everyone who seeks him, his Nubian friend ever looking out for the One born beneath that Star all those years ago.

In Greece the two men suffer violence and Ramus is blinded, but when Lucanus weeps over the man his eyes are miraculously restored. Not long after, Ramus strikes off alone to seek the Messiah. He has heard rumors of a man named Yeshua in Judaea.

With all his Roman enemies dead, Lucanus returns to the Eternal City, where he meets again with his darling Sara, who is dying of tuberculosis (if memory serves). She wants to marry him, so her last years may be brightened by the man she loves and possibly a child. But Lucanus cannot make this jump, although he assures her that he loves her. He sails East again, and they exchange letters until her death. His step-brother has taken ill.

Lucanus finds that his step-brother got sick after participating in the crucifixion of one Jesus of Nazareth, a young Jew executed for supposedly fomenting rebellion. He heals his brother, but both men are convinced that the illness was supernatural in origin and journey across the small country in search of more information about Jesus. The more they hear, the more assured they become of the man's divinity, and soon both are welcomed among His followers.

The book ends with Lucanus, alone this time, interviewing the Virgin Mary about her Son, in the first of many sessions that will eventually be written down as the Gospel of Luke.

Caldwell's gift for description is beyond compare. As much as I wish for an intelligent film or television adaptation of this magnificent tome, it would almost be redundant. Such is her way of setting a scene that you can already see, hear, smell, and touch it. Not the smallest flower in the garden, not the most distant birdsong, not the briefest gleam of sunset against a sea wave escapes her. Her research—reportedly including thousands of books—is clear, and her reputed mystical experiences would also explain a lot.

The characters emerge as real, too: Luke, Sara, Diodorus, Iris, Keptah, and Ramus escapes me especially. Even those who seem a bit too pretty and perfect at first—such as our hero, whose golden hair, sapphire eyes, and perfect features never go unremarked upon—have vivid personalities and intricate internal monologues. Luke's arc is long and agonizing, and one wishes at first for a happier ending, but the more time I've had to process the story, I think it's ending is perfect.

There are too many brilliant scenes to list them all. Some of the best were the sickening slave market scene sequence in Antioch, Julia's orgy in Rome—where Caldwell so well describes Lucanus' drunken stupor that my own vision started to blur, and the last quiet tableaux, where Luke is both awed by Mary and reminded of his own mother.

Content Advisory

Please note: just because this is Christian fiction doesn't mean it's squeaky clean.

Violence: lots of off-page, unseen, murders and rapes. Those Romans were sick.

Gore: There are a handful of graphic medical scenes, including one where a woman dies in childbirth. Very hard to read.

Sex: A teenaged Lucanus is molested by slave traders, who remark on his beauty and tell him that some

pederast or cougar back in Rome would pay a great deal for him. He seeks refuge in a temple and escapes this fate. Later on, a gay soldier makes a mild pass at him and gets rebuffed.

Julia shows up to her party in a hypersexed parody of a Minoan priestess' garb, complete with exposed nipples. She and her ladies lean suggestively on Lucanus and every other man they can find, and they spread a rumor about a rival lady experimenting with bisexuality. The slaves at this party are forced to serve the guests nude, and later others are made to don satyr and nymph outfits and perform a foul mythological burlesque, portraying a mass rape. A plastered Lucanus wakes up to the rapacious older woman straddling him and kissing him all over. Disgusted, he shoves her back onto her lounging attendants and flees the scene. Date rape, aided with alcohol. It happens to men too.

Given that this is the classical world, we also see some nudity in non-sexual contexts. Lucanus meets two of Julia's other boy-toys practicing wrestling in the buff, and proceeds to embarrass them both with his sweet kung-fu skills. (This really happened. Supposedly he was trained by a travelling monk from Cathay whom he met in Alexandria).

Napoleon Dynamite approves:

As previously stated, nothing sexual about this scene, but it's a little awkward that they're just hanging out doing martial arts in their birthday suits.

Language: Nothing to worry about.

Substance Abuse: That one time Lucanus gets hammered is about it, but it's written so vividly that I felt drunk just reading it.

Anything Else: Some will feel uncomfortable that a few of the stories about Jesus at the end of the book are not sourced in the Gospel. Caldwell drew on the visions of Catholic saints and medieval legends for extra material.

Then there is the very awkward subplot involving a black man seeking Jesus because he wants the "curse of Ham" lifted. Oh dear. Remember it was written in 1958.

All in all, an outstanding book for adults and older teens of any or no faith. Like all the best historical fiction, it draws you back into its era and breathes life into people long dead, and places long since fallen into ruin. It may also give you a different perspective on God, and the problem of death. An underrated classic; highly recommended.

Andrew says

This is probably the best book I have ever read. It is incredibly humbling to read. My favorite part is reading of Luke's childhood. His innocent devotion to God convicts and exhorts us to do the same. This book changed the way I viewed God and the way I relate to him.

Taylor Caldwell can just flat out write. Her sentences are packed with imagery. Each word is measured for maximum power. Intelligent? Why yes she is. This fact smacks you in the face. I had to look up much of the Greek mythological references and some of her vocabulary as well. Give the book a read. You won't regret it.

Kim Preslar says

This book was a wonderful look at a man that not much is known about. It was quite obvious that Ms. Caldwell researched her subject well. This is the story of Luke, or Lucanus from the New Testament. In the story, Luke despises a God who would allow his children to suffer from physical pain, ailments, etc... He sets out to heal as many people as he can. And then he was introduced to a lowly man from Gallilee who could heal with a mere thought to the oppressed. The story details the fascinating transformation in the life of St. Luke. Please beware! This story is not dry and boring. It is an excellent work in character development.

Marsha says

This book is a novel, but I believe a pretty historically close novel. It takes place in the antient world around the peak and beginning of the fall of Rome. It follows the life of St. Luke and his relationship to Jesus Christ. He never actually met Jesus in this life, but without knowing it, was always searching for him. There is great character building that makes them truly believable. The author gives a bibliography of the research he has done.
